



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Media Contact:
Bill Taylor, 513-246-0539
william.taylor@emcbc.doe.gov

For Immediate Release
April 1, 2011

DOE Issues Draft Request for Proposals Seeking Contractor to Manage, Operate Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

Cincinnati -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued a Draft Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking a management and operations contractor to maintain the Waste Isolation Pilot Plan (WIPP) and manage the DOE National Transuranic Waste (TRU) Program in Carlsbad, New Mexico. The estimated value of the anticipated contract is from \$130 to \$160 million per year, for five years, with an option to extend the contract for an additional five years. DOE anticipates awarding a competitive, cost-plus-award-fee contract during 2012.

The overall mission of the WIPP and the National TRU program is to protect human health and the environment by safe management, retrieval, characterization, , and disposal of defense-related wastes. The WIPP includes surface facilities and a geological repository located 2150 feet below the surface. TRU waste is placed in the geological repository for permanent storage.

Contract services will include the following:

- WIPP Disposal Operations – Receive and dispose of TRU waste
- National Transuranic Waste Program – Receive TRU waste packages for shipment to WIPP and complete applicable characterization, retrieval, remediation, and re-packaging of waste.
- Facility Operations and Infrastructure – Maintain and operate all site facilities and systems.
- Comply with the New Mexico Hazardous Waste Renewal Permit that assigns specific responsibilities between DOE and the WIPP operating contractor
- Maintain uninterrupted operations, adjust to mission changes, unexpected work scope, and unforeseen complexities associated with radioactive waste disposal operations.
- Permit Modification for Operational Efficiency – Provide justification for and prepare modifications and renewals to the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (HWFP) issued by the State of New Mexico.
- Research and Development Programs – Propose Research and Development (R&D) initiatives to improve operational efficiency of WIPP and the National TRU Program

In developing the Final RFP, DOE will consider all comments received through the WIPP M&O procurement mailbox: WIPPMO@emcbc.doe.gov located on the procurement website:
<http://www.emcbc.doe.gov/wippmo>

-DOE-